

tested points on the whole western front. It has changed hands many times.

It is at this point or near it that the French and British armies join and such junctions are always weak places. It is also very near to the main line of the German advance. The Germans assert they have advanced their line west of the Aves to the heights northwest of Castel.

The French report to-night states that there was great artillery activity to-day in the region about Hangard and on both banks of the Aves, but no infantry action. It is in this region that American troops are supposed to be fighting with the French.

Terrific Battle for Hangard.

The Associated Press correspondent with the French army in France describing yesterday's fighting says that from dawn until night the enemy threw strong assaulting columns repeatedly at Hangard, where the fighting was of the most desperate character.

Toward evening some of the enemy detachments managed to obtain a footing in Hangard wood, lying about a mile northward of the village, and also in the eastern outskirts of the town itself. Their hold, however, was most precarious, for the French obstinately declined to give way. They fought back with terrific dash, making the position of the Germans almost untenable.

The German attack on the British units holding Villers-Bretonneux was apparently part of the same forward movement. Here also the struggle was of the fiercest kind. The French fought side by side with the British and sundown found the combatants still at close grips. The French artillery constantly poured shells almost point blank into the German infantry, which, however, appeared to have adopted extended formation during the attack, probably in consequence of the horrible rain mauling in their ranks when they started the offensive with massed columns.

The enemy infantry battalions are now coming into the fight with the lightest possible equipment. Most of the men do not carry hand grenades while most of their bomb throwing apparatus has been left behind owing to difficulty in bringing forward supplies.

After the preliminary bombardment, they appear to rely chiefly on their rifles, but are well furnished with light portable machine guns, which can be shouldered and for which great quantities of ammunition are carried by extra men. Large numbers of heavier machine guns follow closely in the rear of the advancing troops to ward off counter attacks.

Whether these attacks will develop into a resumption of the general offensive cannot yet be definitely forecast, but it seems probable that the Germans are pursuing their usual practice of pushing forward at various points in the line until they find one which seems weaker than the others. Then they throw themselves forward with all their available strength at that point with the hope of breaking through.

There is a strong feeling of confidence among the Allies that the German intentions again will be frustrated.

Tanks in Battle Royal.

During yesterday's fighting the Germans at one time got as far as Cacy, southwest of Villers-Bretonneux, and this represented their greatest advance. The tanks furnished the most dramatic chapter of the story of yesterday's battle. These tanks, which the Germans employed for the first time, were bulky affairs with heavy armor and guns. The British tanks, which were thrown into the action, were of the type known as "caterpillar" tanks, which have no treads, but which have a continuous track of heavy rollers, which can be shifted and for which great quantities of ammunition are carried by extra men. Large numbers of heavier machine guns follow closely in the rear of the advancing troops to ward off counter attacks.

The main clash between the tanks came when the German engines attacked two smaller British tanks. As might be expected one of the British machines was disabled. The other was being harried by four or five of the big enemy tanks, when one of the larger British tanks, which had observed the fray from the distance, came rushing up and engaged the Germans.

A battle royal. The tank gun blazed furiously and shells crashed and glided from the steel armor in every direction. The British tank finally got several shots on one of the German tanks, when one of the larger British tanks, which had observed the fray from the distance, came rushing up and engaged the Germans.

OFFICIAL BULLETINS OF DAY'S FIGHTING

Both British and Germans Employ Tanks South of Somme.

LONDON, April 25.—Following are the official reports on the fighting in France and Flanders.

BRITISH (NIGHT).—The French and British positions from north of Baillieu to east of Wytschaete have been heavily attacked all day. There has been fighting of great activity on the whole of this front, particularly in the neighborhood of Dranover, Kemmel and Vleeschoven.

In the course of repeated attacks and counter attacks the allied troops have been compelled to withdraw from the positions they held this morning and the fighting continues.

South of the Somme several counter attacks launched by Australian and English troops last night against the positions gained by the enemy yesterday in and around Villers-Bretonneux carried our line onward to within a short distance of our former front and resulted in the capture of over 600 prisoners. The village is now in our hands.

The enemy's attack yesterday morning on this front was made by at least four divisions and his objectives are stated by prisoners to have included the village of Cacy and the Cacy-Pouilly road. These objectives were not reached at any point. The number of German dead found in the positions recaptured by our troops shows that the enemy's losses were very heavy.

BRITISH (DAY).—Heavy fighting took place all night in and around Villers-Bretonneux and still continues. Our troops regained ground by counter attacks and have taken a number of prisoners.

The fighting yesterday on the whole of this front was most severe, and heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy by artillery, infantry and tanks. North of the Villers-Bretonneux-St. Quentin road the enemy three times attacked our positions, and on each occasion was repulsed with loss. During this fighting the enemy made use of a few tanks.

Late yesterday evening the enemy also attacked French positions north-east of Baillieu and was repulsed. Early this morning the enemy renewed his attacks in this sector and on British positions farther east, after an intense bombardment. The fighting continues in this sector on a wide front.

A raid attempted by the enemy during the night in the neighborhood of Buequoy was repulsed.

The hostile artillery has been active during the night in the Festubert and Tobecq sectors.

GERMAN (DAY).—On the Lys bat-

Where Germans Made Gains in the North and Losses in the South



AFTER terrific fighting, in which the advantage was first on one side and then on the other, the British were forced to withdraw from their positions between Baillieu, on the northern end of the Lys salient, and Wytschaete, on the northern end of Messines Ridge, just below Ypres. The extent of the withdrawal is not stated, but it is supposed to have been small. It was reported that Mont Kemmel had been taken by the Germans, but this was not confirmed. Kemmel is the key to this whole northern position.

In the Amiens salient, in the southern battlefield, the British after sharp fighting, recaptured the village of Villers-Bretonneux, at the point where the battle line approaches nearest to Amiens, and now hold the place. Four miles further south, in the French sector, the Germans were last night in possession of Hangard, about which a fierce struggle raged all day, the village changing hands twice.

It is a strong French counter attack against the height of Vleeschoven failed with heavy losses. There were local engagements northwest of Bethune, near Festubert and on both sides of the Scarpe.

In the Somme sector we attacked the English and French near and to the south of Villers-Bretonneux. By means of hard fighting our infantry broke its way to the enemy's machine gun nests. Tanks effectively supported them during this action. We captured the much contested town of Hangard.

On the western bank of the Aves we advanced our line to the heights northwest of Castel. Throughout the day the enemy delivered violent counter attacks with his reserves which had been kept in readiness for the battle and which came hastily forward from the rear. They broke down with singular losses.

Bitter engagements lasted throughout the night in the captured regions. Over 2,000 prisoners remained in our hands and four cannon and numerous machine guns were also taken.

FRENCH (NIGHT).—There was great activity on the part of both armies to-day in the region of Hangard and on both banks of the Aves, but no infantry action.

In the Woëvre, after a violent bombardment, the Germans delivered an attack in the Regnville sector. Our troops elected the enemy from some advance elements where he had gained a footing and completely reestablished our lines. Prisoners remained in our hands.

The artillery fighting was quite spirited on the left bank of the Meuse and in the Vosges.

FRENCH (DAY).—The battle continued with violence around the village of Hangard, on which the Germans concentrated their efforts during the night. French troops resisted valiantly and counter attacks resulted with success. The village was lost, then retaken by the French and finally remained in the hands of the Germans at the cost of heavy losses.

The French are holding the immediate outskirts of Hangard, and the Germans have not been able to dislodge them from the town in spite of repeated efforts.

On both banks of the Aves the artillery fighting continues with violence.

The French made several successful raids, especially west of Lassigny, south of Coucy-le-Chateau, and in Lorraine. We took a certain number of prisoners. The artillery fighting was very active in the Woëvre, in the region of Flirey and Regnville. Elsewhere there is nothing to report.

BOTH SIDES USE TANKS.

Land Cruisers Fitted Against Each Other for First Time.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE.

April 25.—Tanks went into action on both sides this morning for the first time in history, when the Germans renewed their attacks against the French and British lines on the northern end of the front. In the battle about Villers-Bretonneux the German tanks appeared at the beginning of the engagement and by noon the British tanks joined in the fighting. The artillery fighting when they got among the enemy infantry.

Some five tanks were employed on each side in the Villers-Bretonneux fighting as supports to the infantry. The crews of the British land dreadnaughts were experienced in handling their charges, and when two of the tanks got among the enemy troops they crushed their way forward, shooting down the hostile infantry with rapid fire guns.

Palestine Money Orders Offered.

The financial department of the Adams Express Company announced yesterday that arrangements had been made for remittance to Palestine. Each remittance is limited to \$50 and the rate of exchange is \$4.25 per pound sterling and \$4.85 for cable orders. Private remittances will not be forwarded in connection with the remittances. Definite statements and affidavits are required before the remittances can be effected.

COOL VALOR MARKED RAID ON ZEEBRUGGE

Continued from First Page.

night fighting and bombing, while officers were carefully drilled in dealing with exigencies likely to occur.

"All the men were tuned up to a high pitch, and it was with very anxious hearts that we waited for a suitable time to strike, knowing that every day we waited there was a greater chance of our secret being out."

"Fifteen minutes after the Vindicator arrived alongside the mole our submarine exploded under the viaduct connecting the mole with the mainland. The Germans had sent a considerable force to this viaduct as soon as the submarine arrived and these men were gathered on the viaduct attacking our submarine with machine guns."

"When the explosion occurred the viaduct and Germans were blown up together. The crew of the submarine, consisting of six men, escaped on board a dingy to a motor launch."

"Early in the fighting a German shell knocked out our howitzer which had been getting in some good shots on a big German machine gun position on the mole half a mile away. This is the largest sea-plane station in Belgium. Unfortunately our only howitzer could not be brought to bear effectively upon it. The shell which disabled the howitzer killed all the members of the gun crew. Many men also were killed by a German shell which hit the mole close to our ship and scattered fragments of steel and stone among the marines assembling on the deck around the gangway."

"The German fire was very hot all the time we lay alongside the mole. At times the German guns reached as high as forty shots per minute. During the hottest part of the fighting I left my station in the flamehouse and went all around the ship to see how things were going. The spirit of the men was excellent. All they asked was 'Are we winning?'"

"Half an hour after the block ships went in we received the signal to withdraw. The Vindicator's siren was blown and the men returned from all parts of the mole and thronged down the gangway. We put off after having laid alongside just about an hour."

"The Vindicator was provided with plenty of defensive equipment in case the Germans attempted to board her."

"The heaviest casualties of the expedition appear to have been inflicted on the personnel of the Vindicator by a shell which burst on the bridge. Of the casualties on board this vessel more than a third were killed."

LAUNCHES SAVE CREWS.

American Built Boats Rescue Men From Block Ships.

By the Associated Press.

DOVER, England, April 25.—One of the most thrilling incidents of the British naval raid on Zebrugghe last Tuesday was the rescue by two American built

motor launches of nearly 200 members of the crew of two block ships sunk at the entrance to the Bruges Canal.

The feat was accomplished under a heavy fire and the actual transfer was made in less than five minutes.

Two of the three block ships which passed inside the mole reached their objective and swung broadside across the mouth of the channel. Then, according to plans, two motor launches dashed in from the sea through the enemy barrage at express train speed and drew up alongside.

All the time shells were falling, some striking the block ships and causing numerous casualties, but the crews held their traditions for coolness. As the last of these who were able reached the launches two muffled explosions tore great holes in the bottom of the block ships. The vessels settled quickly. At the same moment the heavily laden launches were dashing seaward and again they passed through a German barrage to the waiting British destroyers.

"That wilderness of debris, that litter of used and broken tools of war, that havoc reared this prison house of death and battle are as obvious and plentiful here as there. The ruined tank, nosing at the stout tree which stopped it, has its barrel in the flame thrower's hut at the port wing of the Vindicator's bridge, its iron sides flecked with rents from machine gun bullets and shell splinters. The tall white cross which commemorates the martyrdom of the Londoners is sited to the dingy pierced white ensign which floated over the light at Zebrugghe Mole."

"Looking aft from the chaos of her wrecked bridge, one sees against the wharf the heroic bourgeois shapes of the three Liverpool boats, the Iris and the Daffodil, which shared with the Vindicator the honors of the arduous fight. The epic of their achievement shines in the light of that view across the scarred and littered decks in that environment of gray water and great still ships."

Their objectives were the canal at Zebrugghe, the Intrepid, the Iris and the Daffodil, each dived with concrete and with mines attached to her bottom for the purpose of sinking her. Merrimac fashion, in the neck of the canal, were aimed at Zebrugghe. Two others, similarly prepared, were to follow.

"The function of the Vindicator with her ferryboats was to attack the great half moon mole which guards the Zebrugghe Canal, to land bluejackets and

motor launches of nearly 200 members of the crew of two block ships sunk at the entrance to the Bruges Canal.

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BRITISH ADMIRALTY DESCRIBES ATTACK

High Official Praise Given Navy's Men at Zebrugghe.

LONDON, April 25.—The Admiralty has issued the following official narrative on the Zebrugghe affair:

"Those who recall High Wood upon the Somme and the battles of the 1918 may easily figure to themselves the decks of H. M. S. Vindicator as she lies to-day in stark black profile against the leaden haze of the harbor, amid the stripped trim shapes of drifting ships which throng these waters."

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marines upon it to destroy what stores and guns of the Germans they could find and generally create a diversion while the block ships ran and sank themselves in the appointed place.

"Vice-Admiral Keyes, in the destroyer Warwick, commanded the operation. There had been two previous attempts to attack, capable of being pushed home if weather and other conditions served. The night of the 23d of April offered nearly all the required conditions. Some fifteen miles off Zebrugghe the ships took up the formation for attack."

The Vindicator, which had been towing the Iris and Daffodil, cast them off to follow under their own steam. The Intrepid, Iphigeneia and Thetis slowed down to give the first three time to get alongside the mole. The Iris and the Daffodil shifted their courses for Ostend and a great swarm of destroyers and motor craft spread themselves abroad upon their multifarious and particular duties.

"The night was overcast and there was a drifting haze. Down the coast a great searchlight swung its beam to and fro in the small wind and short sea. From the Vindicator's bridge, as she headed in toward the mole with the faithful ferryboats at her heels, there was scarcely a glimmer of light to be seen shoreward. Ahead as she drove through the water rolled the smoke screen, her cloak of invisibility wrapped about her by small craft. This was the device of Wing Commander Brock, without which, acknowledges the Admiralty in command, the operation could not have been conducted."

"A steady wind moved the volume of it shoreward ahead of the ships. Beyond it was the distant town, its defenders unsuspecting. It was not until the Vindicator, with bluejackets and marines standing ready for landing, was close upon the mole that the wind lulled and came away again from the southeast, sweeping back the smoke

screen and laying her bare to eyes that looked seaward."

KAISER AT ZEEBRUGGE.

All Highest Told How Attack Was "Frustrated."

LONDON, April 25.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent sends the following telegram received from Berlin:

"The Kaiser on Tuesday visited Zebrugghe, the scene of the frustrated British raid. He boarded the Mole, where he convinced himself that the damage caused by the blowing up of the railway bridge had already been temporarily repaired and that a final bridging of the gap could be done in a few days. He also satisfied himself of the good condition of all the structures and installations on the outer part of the Mole, which was the object of the attack. He then proceeded to the canal bank, where two cement laden cranes lay at the scene of the nocturnal battle. He obtained again an exact account from several particularly efficient officers of the captured English Captain of marines who happened to be brought part to explain the battle. The Captain admitted that the destruction of the installations on the Mole and the cutting off of the U-boats from the bases at Zebrugghe and Ostend were long prepared enterprises and were to be carried out on a big scale."

"A surprise attack had been planned four times, but each time it failed owing to the vigilance of the German outposts. Not until Monday night did the Kaiser himself see the Mole and the thick mist render the raid possible without, however, obtaining the success intended."

MOLE TORN BY BLAST.

Gap in Seventy-Five Yards Wide, Says Dutch Writer.

AMSTERDAM, April 25.—A correspondent of the *Telegraph* sends word from the frontier that a hole fully twenty-five yards wide was blown in the Zebrugghe mole by the British submarines which was loaded with explosives and sent against the mole.

"One may see clearly through the mole," says the correspondent. "The breach is near the coast, showing that the submarine went far into the harbor. Notwithstanding the barricading contrivances such as nets and old boats on the shore side of the harbor the wreck of a two-funnelled torpedo boat was transferred to Huges by boat and train. The losses among the surprised troops must have been great. The entire garrison was called by alarm. The frightened inhabitants fled to Ramscapelle. The people could hardly believe the British had been in the harbor."

Berlin, via London, April 25.—German naval operations off the Flemish coast, says an official statement given out today by the German Admiralty, have in no way been impeded by the British attack on Zebrugghe and Ostend.

Tobacco Cards in Austria Now.

VIENNA, April 25.—Vienna despatches say that tobacco cards are being issued in Austria for the purpose of economizing the rapidly diminishing stock.

SEEK PLANT AND TREE BARGAINS, are offered in The Sun every Sunday. Read the garden page.—Ad.